

gwinnettcounty CONNECTION

a monthly publication of **gwinnettcounty** government

OCTOBER 2017



Chairman Nash and advisers crafting proposed 2018 budget

Through the month of October, Gwinnett County Commission Chairman Charlotte Nash and her team of advisers will be hammering out a proposed 2018 budget to be presented to the public and the Board of Commissioners on November 28.

Nash enlisted seven residents to help set priorities and make recommendations for the 2018 proposed budget. In August, the budget team heard County department directors and agency heads present their business plans and financial resource requests. The videotaped business plan presentations are available to view on the county's website at www.gwinnettcounty.com.

After the November 28 budget unveiling, a public hearing will follow on December 4. By county ordinance, the Board of Commissioners must adopt the annual budget during its first meeting in January. The 2017 budget was about \$1.56 billion.

!Para leer en español a
www.gwinnettcounty.com!

AROUND GWINNETT



Parents, help teens be alcohol-free

Parents and adults can prevent and reduce underage drinking by being aware and working together. Adults who buy, supply, or provide alcohol to minors may be fined \$1,000, sentenced to a year in jail, or sued for damages. When teens drink, it can lead to accidents, DUIs, fatalities, lower school performance, and decreased athletic performance.

This message is sponsored by GUIDE Inc., a nonprofit focused on improving community conditions through substance use and abuse prevention and positive youth development. For more information, visit www.guideinc.org.

Celebrate America Recycles Day: November 18

Clear out your clutter for America Recycles Day, on Saturday, **November 18** from **9:00am to noon** at Coolray Field, **2500 Buford Drive in Lawrenceville.**

This free event, sponsored by the Solid Waste Management Division and Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful, offers paper shredding, plus recycling of electronics, tire, ink/toner cartridge, and paint. You can also bring old sneakers and gently used clothing for people in need or to be recycled. Come for free kids' activities, including touch-a-truck, and meet your solid waste haulers.

Here are some things to know before you load up:

- Paper shredding is limited to five copier paper boxes
- Tires are limited to eight per vehicle; no dealer tires
- Electronics recycling is free with the exception of TVs and monitors (\$10 fee) and printers (\$5 fee)
- Paint is limited to eight, 1-gallon cans per vehicle and they must contain 25 percent wet paint.

For more information, please call **770.822.7141**.

County offices closed for Veterans Day

All Gwinnett County government offices, with the exception of those operations required for the comfort and safety of the residents of the county, will be closed Friday, November 10 for the Veterans Day holiday. All offices will resume regular working hours Monday, November 13. A Magistrate Court judge will be available at the Gwinnett County Detention Center. Trash collection in unincorporated Gwinnett County is scheduled as normal.

County honors veterans at annual ceremony

The County will host its annual Veterans Day Ceremony **Saturday, November 11** at **11:00am** at the Gwinnett Fallen Heroes Memorial, located at 75 Langley Drive in Lawrenceville. Join in paying tribute to the men and women who have served honorably in the military during wartime or peacetime.

Explore Gwinnett is Gwinnett's official tourism agency and promotes Gwinnett as a place to meet, stay, and play.

View the complete events calendar at

www.exploreGwinnett.org.

The Nutcracker

November 24 – November 26

Friday • 2:00pm and 7:30pm

Saturday • 10:00am, 2:00pm, and 7:30pm

Sunday • 2:00pm and 6:00pm

Infinite Energy Theater

6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth

Trans-Siberian Orchestra

December 9

Saturday • 3:00pm and 8:00pm

Infinite Energy Arena

6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth

Maytag Virgin

January 11 – February 11

Tuesday – Saturday • 8:00pm

Saturday and Sunday • 2:30pm

Aurora Theatre

128 East Pike Street, Lawrenceville

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send questions or comments to
shaunieka.taste@gwinnettcounty.com

Gwinnett County Communications Division

75 Langley Drive • Lawrenceville, GA 30046

770.822.7180 • www.gwinnettcounty.com

Questions about your water bill? Call **678.376.6700**.



gwinnettSPLOST.com

your pennies
for parks & greenspace

SPLOST funds Rock Springs Park

A playground, a dog park, and other improvements at Rock Springs Park are complete and open to the public.

The park expansion project includes an 11,600-square-foot playground with an open shelter; a 2.5-acre dog park, connections to the existing loop trail, and a new entrance and 340 additional parking spaces. A new soccer complex features three soccer fields and a concession-restroom building, but the fields won't be available until the spring when the grass is established.

The \$5.9-million in improvements to the park were funded by the 2009 SPLOST.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Help kids have a fun, safe Halloween

Whether your kids' Halloween costumes are scary or sweet, it's most important that they be safe. Costumes can be both creative and free from injury or danger, so here are some tips to ensure your children are ready for a fun, enjoyable Halloween:

- Make sure your kids' costumes are visible to motorists by choosing costumes that are light or bright-colored, or use glow sticks or reflective tape
- Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes
- Secure hats and scarves and avoid loose-fitting masks that may restrict breathing or obscure vision
- Swords, knives, and similar accessories should be made of soft, flexible material

Drivers should slow down in neighborhoods and be on alert for children, especially during peak trick-or-treating hours.

DEA National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day set for October 28

Dispose of expired or unwanted medications in an environmentally safe way by dropping them off in front of the Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office on **Saturday, October 28** from **10:00am to 2:00pm** as part of the Drug Enforcement Administration's National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. For more information, call **404.223.2484**.

PROTECTING OUR RESOURCES



Trick or Treatment: Water Resources hosts fall festival

Have you ever wondered where water goes when it leaves homes and businesses? It may not be pretty, but it doesn't have to be scary!

On October 28, Gwinnett County residents will have an opportunity to learn about the fascinating process of how water is reclaimed, cleaned, and returned to the environment during the Trick or Treatment Fall Festival at the Yellow River Water Reclamation Facility in Lilburn.

This family-friendly event will feature tours of the facility, exhibits from various Gwinnett County departments and community partners, games and crafts, and carnival-style food. Plus, the event is a great opportunity to test out your favorite costume!

The Yellow River WRF is an advanced, award-winning water treatment facility. In 2016, the facility received the 2016 Platinum Peak Performance Award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies for 100 percent permit compliance over a five-year period.

So be sure to check our Trick or Treatment Fall Festival at the Yellow River Water Reclamation Facility on **October 28** from **10:00am** until **2:00pm**. The facility is located at **858 Tom Smith Road, Lilburn**. Wear your favorite costume, meet representatives from County departments and partners, decorate a pumpkin, grab a hot dog, win a prize, and take a tour of one of the best wastewater treatment facilities in the nation.

Don't forget to attend our free workshop!

TAX COMMISSIONER

Reminder: New tag office operating hours

Effective July 1, the Norcross, North Gwinnett, Peachtree Corners, and Snellville tag offices are now open Monday – Friday, and the Lawrenceville tag office is now open Tuesday – Saturday. All tag offices are open 8:00am – 5:00pm. Visit www.GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com for more information.

CHECK IT OUT

Here are suspenseful reads for October from Gwinnett County Public Library:

Afterlife, by Marcus Sakey

Behind Her Eyes, by Sarah Pinborough

Blackout, by Marc Elsberg

The Child, by Fiona Barton

The Switch, by Joseph Finder

Department of Water Resources • Free Workshop! Cooking to Protect Water Quality

November 9, 2017 • 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Gwinnett Justice and Administration
Conference Room C
75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville

Learn how fats, oils, grease, and rags from your kitchen can contribute to water pollution in nearby waterways at this free workshop.

Presented by: John Butler and James Jones,
Gwinnett Department of Water Resources

Attendees from unincorporated Gwinnett County or the city of Lilburn may qualify for a maximum 5 percent credit toward their stormwater utility fee for the following year.

Three ways to register:

Visit the public education page at www.gwinnettH2O.com, send an email with your name, address, and phone number to dwrworkshops@gwinnettcountry.com, or call 678.376.7193.